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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY China

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THE CHINESE COMMUNIST POLITICAL SOLDIER

1. In order to strengthen the political and educational work of the company and in order to continue the political work of the platoon when it is away from the company, a political soldier will be appointed in the company (in each platoon?). He is the assistant of the political director of the company.
2. The political soldier must be the person in whom the troops have great faith. He must have a comparatively good political knowledge and must be a good Communist party member.
 - a. The political soldier will not leave the troops during peace or war.
 - b. The political director will submit the name of the political soldier to the Laborers' Union. If approved by the union, his name will be forwarded to the political commissioner or political staff assistant who is authorized to give the final approval. During battle, the political director may appoint the political soldier directly.
 - c. The political soldier is directly responsible to the political director in all matters pertaining to political activities. In military matters, the political soldier will be responsible to his original commanding officer.
3. The duties of the political soldier are as follows:
 - a. He will plan extra-curricular activities (such as newspaper reading, singing, letter writing, dramatics, etc.) for the troops.
 - b. He will instruct old and advanced troops to help new and slow troops.
 - c. He will see that all the troops of the platoon keep strict discipline when dealing with the people. He will see that the troops do not interfere with the people and disobey rules and regulations.

CLASSIFICATION

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 13 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
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DPB Memo, 4 Apr 77

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- d. When carrying out orders from his superiors, the political soldier will endeavor to bring up the morale of the troops and carry out the orders.
- e. In battle, the political soldier will be brave and courageous, making a fine example for the troops. He will always encourage the troops to overcome their fear in battle.
- f. In battle, the political soldier's duties will be to lead the troops in "yelling" (when it is necessary to yell to raise the morale of the troops) and to check the prisoners of war.
- g. When the platoon is away from the company, the political soldier will continue the political work of the platoon in accordance with instructions from the political director of the company.
- h. The political soldier will lead the troops of the platoon in all recreational activities.
- 4. The political soldier will rely mainly upon the faith the troops of the platoon have in him to carry out his political work. He does not receive any special power by becoming a political soldier.
 - a. The political soldier will employ democratic means to accomplish his duties. He will pay particular attention to those progressive elements in the platoon so that he may use them to assist him in his work.
 - b. Under special circumstances when the political work of the political soldier is too heavy, the political director may consult the company commander to reduce the political soldier's ordinary duties.
 - c. The political soldier will make periodical reports to the political director.
- 5. The political soldier will be appointed once every 6 months, however, the same political soldier may be appointed to continue for two periods. If the political soldier is not capable of performing his duties, he may be replaced at any time.

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